

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4, 7-14, 17-24 and 27-31 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 11 and 21 have been amended. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the method comprising:

establishing a logical communication path that is independent of a physical communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network, wherein each network connection on said physical communication path has a corresponding redundant network connection on said logical communication path, wherein at least a first portion of said logical communication path and at least a second portion of said logical communication path utilize different communication protocols ~~and handle for handling~~ communication of different communication types, and wherein both of said physical and logical communication paths are established through the same plurality of network nodes; and

transferring information that would be normally transferred over said physical communication path between said at least two endpoints, via said established logical communication path over said corresponding redundant network connection.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising provisioning said established logical communication path for handling communication functions.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said communication functions comprise one or more of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and/or addressing management.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising temporarily storing said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established logical communication path.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said logical communication path comprises one or both of a circuit switched connection and/or a packet switched connection.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least two endpoints comprise a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said at least two endpoints comprises one or more of a media processing system, a media peripheral, a personal computer, a third (3rd) party media provider, a third (3rd) party storage vendor and/or a channel information server.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said logical and said physical communication paths comprises one or both of a wired and/or a wireless communication link.

11. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the at least one code section being executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform steps comprising:

establishing a logical communication path that is independent of a physical communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network, wherein each network connection on said physical communication path has a corresponding redundant network connection on said logical communication path, wherein at least a first portion of said logical communication path and at least a second portion of said logical communication path utilize different communication protocols and handle~~for handling~~ communication of different communication types, and wherein both of said physical and logical communication paths are established through the same plurality of network nodes; and

transferring information that would be normally transferred over said physical communication path between said at least two endpoints, via said established logical communication path over said corresponding redundant network connection.

12. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, comprising code for provisioning said established logical communication path for handling communication functions.

13. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said communication functions comprise one or more of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and/or addressing management.

14. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, comprising code for temporarily storing said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established logical communication path.

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said second communication path comprises one or both of a circuit switched connection and/or a packet switched connection.

18. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said at least two endpoints comprise a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

19. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein each of said at least two endpoints comprises one or more of a media processing system, a media peripheral, a personal computer, a third (3rd) party media provider, a third (3rd) party storage vendor and/or a channel information server.

20. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein each of said logical and said physical communication paths comprises one or both of a wired and/or a wireless communication link.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the system comprising:
at least one processor executing a provisioning protocol that establishes a logical communication path that is independent of a physical communication path that couples

at least two end points via at least a first broadband network, wherein each network connection on said physical communication path has a corresponding redundant network connection on said logical communication path, wherein at least a first portion of said logical communication path and at least a second portion of said logical communication path utilize different communication protocols for handling and handle communication of different communication types, and wherein both of said physical and logical communication paths are established through the same plurality of network nodes; and

 said at least one processor transfers information that would normally be transferred over said physical communication path between said at least two endpoints, via said established logical communication path over said corresponding redundant network connection.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, said at least one processor provisions said established logical communication path for handling communication functions.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein said communication functions comprise one or more of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and/or addressing management.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor temporarily stores said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established logical communication path.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said logical communication path comprises one or both of a circuit switched connection and/or a packet switched connection.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least two endpoints comprise a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein each of said at least two endpoints comprises one or more of a media processing system, a media peripheral, a personal computer, a third (3rd) party media provider, a third (3rd) party storage vendor and/or a channel information server.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein each of said logical and said physical communication paths comprises one or both of a wired and/or a wireless communication link.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor comprises one or more of a media processing system processor, a media management system processor, a computer processor, a media exchange software processor and/or a media peripheral processor.